



Office of Defense Cooperation – Sofia Humanitarian Assistance Program



Agenda

- Introductions
- ODC – Who are we?
- What are today's objectives?
- Humanitarian Assistance Background
- Project types
- Project examples
- Inappropriate Projects
- Request, Approval & Funding process
- Roundtable discussion





ODC - Who are we?

- Mission
- Security Cooperation Programs
- Humanitarian Assistance Goals
 - Enhance bilateral cooperation
 - Foster goodwill
 - Support regional development efforts
 - Promote public diplomacy



What are today's objectives?

- Disseminate information about our HA program
- Interact with Regional Governments and Civil Society:
 - Ensure holistic & equitable approach
 - Receive ideas & requests
 - Provide opportunity for public private partnerships

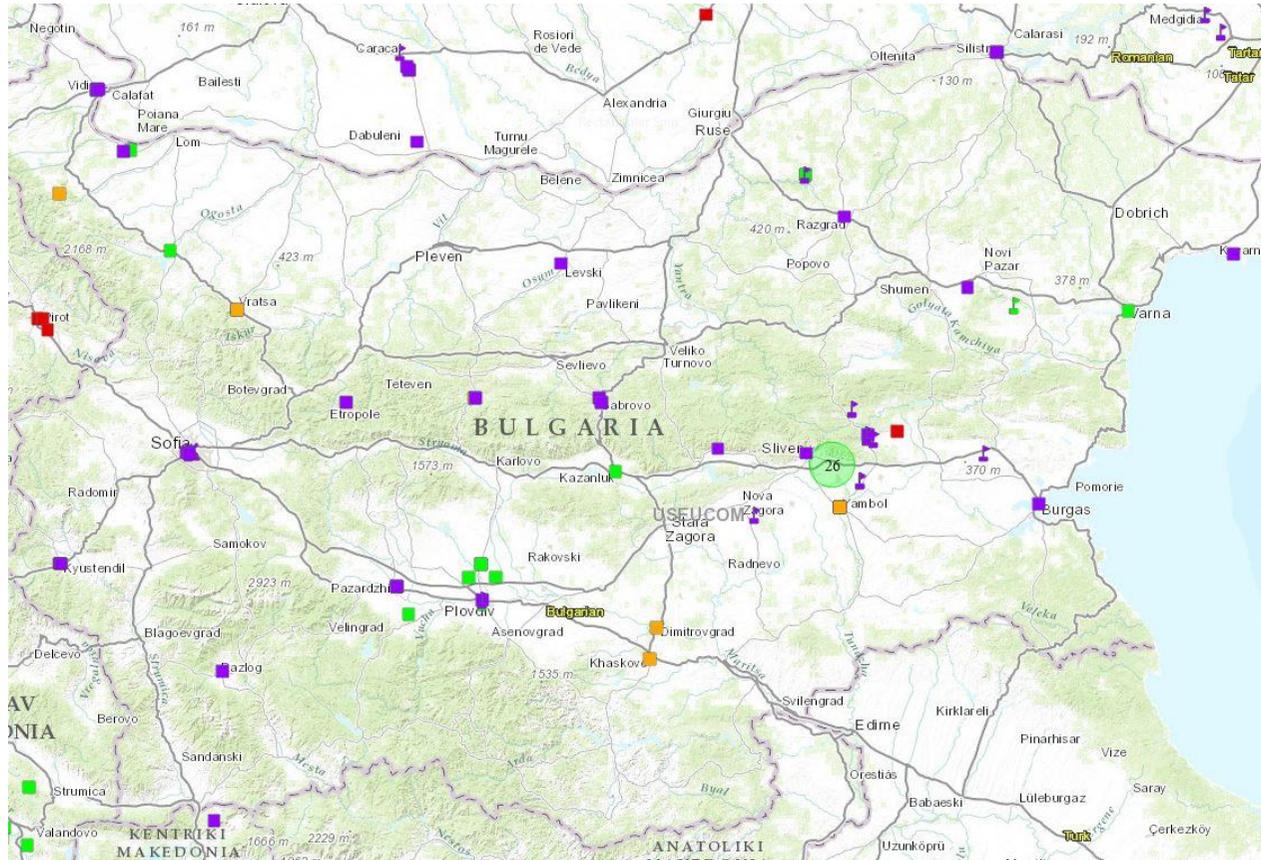


HA Background

- Established in Bulgaria in 1996. Since 2010 the US Government has invested 2, 057, 210 USD in 33 projects across the country. For FY12/13 we have additional 8 funded projects amounting to 915,000 USD.
- European Command HA activities are financed by Overseas Humanitarian Disaster Assistance and Civic Aid (OHDACA) appropriation.



Ongoing Projects in Bulgaria



HA Project Types



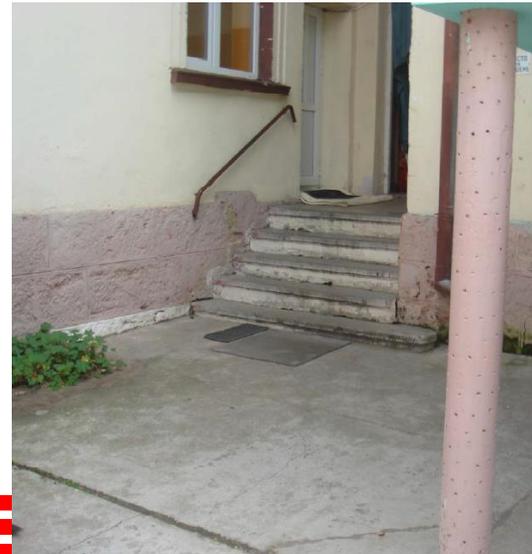
- HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE OTHER (HA-O)
 - RUDIMENTARY CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATION OF PUBLIC FACILITIES SUCH AS *CLINICS, SCHOOLS, ORPHANAGES, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CENTERS, DIGGING WATER WELLS*
 - Stand-alone projects (10,000-450,000 USD)
 - US Government provides funding, local company does the work; 2 year funds
 - The entire contracting process is handled directly by US Contracting Agency (Navy, Army)

Bulgaria Specific

- Realistically projects that range between 25,000 and 250,000 USD have better chances of approval and funding.
- Bulgaria focuses on projects improving lives of disadvantaged youth, education and disaster management.
- Projected number for FY15 is maximum 10 projects. Funding becomes limited since Bulgaria is a EU member and not first priority for EUCOM.



Examples- Dobri Dol





Example -- Montana





Examples-G. Alexandrovo, Trapoklovo, Kazanlak





Examples – Zlatograd Kindergartens



HA Project Types



- HUMANITARIAN AND CIVIC ASSISTANCE (HCA)
 - EXERCISE-RELATED CIVIC ASSISTANCE – U.S. TROOPS CONSTRUCT/RENOVATE PUBLIC FACILITIES
 - Support to the population of remote, rural & underserved communities
 - Funding covers procurement of materials through the US Government and is NOT a grant to the agency/municipality; (10,000-25,000 USD); 1 year funds

Bulgaria Specific

- Locations are limited around Novo Selo Training Area, Graf Ignatievo AFB and Burgas and Varna Naval ports because of 60 kms distance limitation
- Projects are relatively smaller and simpler in scope and depend greatly on the skills of the military participating in the rotation.
- Executed in June/July/August timeframe. Average duration 2-3 weeks. Work is done jointly with Bulgarian engineering troops.



Examples-Yambol Joy, Sliven School Gym





Project Request Process

- Submission of project proposals to US Embassy POC (ODC) on an annual basis.
- Review and approval of projects by Country Team/Ambassador.
- Submission of project proposals to EUCOM thru the **OHASIS** (Overseas Humanitarian Assistance Shared Information System)
- Review and approval by DSCA and EUCOM, then funding
- Execution of project by U.S. Troops when in country or by local company
- **Note!** Contract is awarded by US Government Contracting Agency: Army, Navy to the company directly. No funds are transferred to the local government or the beneficiary.



Criteria for a successful project

- Partnership with other governmental or non-governmental organizations, local municipalities
- Total cost of project is about 250,000 USD
- Large number of end users versus dollar amount
- Clearly defined desired goals and outcomes
- Good sustainability plan (e.g. a letter from local administration with statement and measures)



Examples of Inappropriate Projects

- Building prisons
- Internet cafes
- Extending electrical power to an area that has not previously had power
- Improving a road to increase commerce in a particular area
- Publicly operated local radio and television stations
- Payment of salaries and other support cost for local administration (police, fire, and medical personnel)
- Purchase of equipment, construction of or support to religious facilities/groups
- Sports facilities/complexes



Requirements to project proposals

- Projects must be submitted in writing, in English to ODC by (1) email or (2) email and hard copy . (We don't have a registry so we can not issue an incoming number for paper documents)
- All project proposals must be received by 1 April 2014.
- Confirmation of receipt will be done by email
- Update on the status of the projects will be done after 1 June 2014
- Each question on the template must be addressed
- No more than 6 pictures
- Additional information – not to exceed 3 pages
- Proposals must be **ONLY** in Word, Excel, Adobe, Jpeg files, **no zip files or filesharing**
- File names must be in Latin Letters



US Embassy Points of Contact

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<http://www.eucom.mil/mission/key-focus-areas/helping-people>

<http://bulgaria.usembassy.gov/odc.html>



Roundtable Discussion: What are your focus areas, ideas & goals?

